

REMARKS

After entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 1 and 3-45 remain pending in the application.

The allowance of claims 10-45, and the indication of allowable subject matter in claims 3 and 6, is noted with appreciation.

Claims 3 and 6 have been rewritten in independent form, so are believed to be in condition for allowance.

Claims 1, 4, 5 and 7-9 stand rejected on art.

To expedite prosecution, applicant has amended independent claims 1 and 5.

In particular, claim 1 now recites that compressing the first media signal generates “a compressed first media signal *from which a counterpart to the first media signal can be decompressed.*” Support for this limitation is found, e.g., at page 4, lines 21-26, which speaks of image compression techniques such as JPEG 2000 being suitable. As is familiar to artisans, JPEG image compression allows a counterpart to the original signal to be decompressed from the JPEG data.

In contrast, the Venkatesan art applied against claim 1 does not allow any counterpart to the original signal to be decompressed from his hash data. His hash function is a one-way function; given the result, no counterpart to the original can be computed.

Claim 5 has been amended to recite the act of “decompressing said decoded signal to yield a content object.” (Support is found, e.g., in the sentence bridging pp. 4-5 of applicant’s spec.)

Again, the art applied against this claim (Yoshida) teaches an arrangement reliant on hashing techniques, which again are one-way functions. No decompressing of the decoded signal to yield a content object, as now claimed, is taught.

Despite the amendment of claims 1 and 5, applicant reserves the right to pursue claims of a scope similar to these claims prior to amendment, in one or more related applications.

A minor grammatical change has been made to claim 38.

In view of the foregoing, the claims are believed to be in condition for allowance, and action to that end is solicited.

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Respectfully submitted,
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